

temperature (and thus T_a) was high enough, adult Essex Skippers, *Thymelicus lineola* Ochsenheimer, were able to feed with their wings closed.

These observations on the behaviour of the Panoptes Blue butterfly, *Pseudophilotes panoptes* reveal thermoregulatory behaviour consistent with that proposed by Heinrich (1993) for small butterfly species. Since so little is known about the behaviour of this continental species, this may be the first documented record showing that the behaviour of the Panoptes Blue includes components characteristic of thermoregulation in many small-bodied butterflies.

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An Autumnal Broad-bordered Bee Hawk, *Hemaris fuciformis* L. (Lep.: Sphingidae), in an Essex Garden

In the course of correspondence Dr R.R. Uhthoff-Kaufmann recently informed me of his sighting of a Bee hawk moth in his front garden in Old Harlow, Essex, on 29th September 1994. This may, perhaps, be of interest in connection with the note by G.M. Haggett (*antea*: 24) reporting the species in good numbers in recent years in the Norfolk/Suffolk breckland, including its appearance for about the first time in gardens and one, exceptionally, in October last. At about 10.30am in sunshine the moth arrived "from nowhere" and fed for at least a minute at flowers of variegated "busy lizzies" (*Impatiens* sp.) in a tub. The hindwings appeared to have large "eye-spots" – applicable to *H. fuciformis* only. Dr Kaufmann adds that there was at the time a local newspaper report of several other residents in the Harlow area having seen Hummingbird Hawkmoths in their gardens, and suggests with reason that some at least of these may have been Bee Hawks. A small (?) autumn brood would have been a likely product of the very hot weather of July 1994. – A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.